



WARE

Hampshire County



[NARRATIVE](#)
[GEOGRAPHY](#)
[GOVERNMENT](#)
[DEMOGRAPHICS](#)
[HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS](#)
[TRANSPORTATION](#)
[CULTURE AND RECREATION](#)
[MISCELLANEOUS](#)



NARRATIVE

Narrative

Ware is a former mill town, tucked under the Quabbin Reservoir. It is approximately equidistant to Springfield, Northampton and Worcester. Ware grew as an industrial community in the latter half of the 1800's and subsequently served as a sub-regional commercial center with a strong downtown area.

Ware's population has remained between 8,000 and 10,000 throughout the twentieth century. Ware has been characterized by its strong ethnic base, having a substantial population of Irish, French and Polish citizens. In recent years, textile mills have closed, leaving a legacy of chronic high unemployment. Today, more people work out of town, commuting to the larger, urban areas. Most of the growth of the town in the past decade has been around Beaver Lake or among the many scenic back roads that skirt this one-time industrial town, that has now become a bedroom community.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Central Massachusetts, bordered by Belchertown on the west; New Salem, Petersham, and Hardwick on the north; New Braintree, West Brookfield, and Warren on the east; and Palmer on the south. Ware is about 25 miles northeast of Springfield, 28 miles west of Worcester, 67 miles west of Boston, and 163 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 39.98 sq. miles

Land Area: 34.41 sq. miles

Population: 9,808

Density: 285 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Amherst Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.6°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.9°F

Normal annual precipitation.....42.5"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Winsor Dam, Ware, Palmer, Warren

Regional Planning Agency

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Springfield



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 967-5289

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Town Administrator

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1775

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

Number	%
--------	---

Total Registered 5,397

Democrats 2,405 44.6 % Republicans 474 8.8 % Other parties 6 0.1 % Unenrolled Voters 2,512 46.5 %

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Ware town, Hampshire County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	9,707	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	9,707	100.0
Male.....	4,727	48.7	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	202	2.1
Female.....	4,980	51.3	Mexican.....	15	0.2
Under 5 years.....	590	6.1	Puerto Rican.....	137	1.4
5 to 9 years.....	642	6.6	Cuban.....	2	-
10 to 14 years.....	723	7.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	48	0.5
15 to 19 years.....	689	7.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	9,505	97.9
20 to 24 years.....	538	5.5	White alone.....	9,275	95.5
25 to 34 years.....	1,251	12.9	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	1,594	16.4	Total population.....	9,707	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	1,389	14.1	In households.....	9,706	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	497	5.1	Householder.....	4,027	41.5
60 to 64 years.....	349	3.6	Spouse.....	1,885	19.4
65 to 74 years.....	662	6.8	Child.....	2,889	29.8
75 to 84 years.....	613	6.3	Own child under 18 years.....	2,205	22.7
85 years and over.....	190	2.0	Other relatives.....	307	3.2
Median age (years).....	37.7	(X)	Under 18 years.....	102	1.1
18 years and over.....	7,307	75.3	Nonrelatives.....	598	6.2
Male.....	3,493	36.0	Unmarried partner.....	330	3.4
Female.....	3,814	39.3	In group quarters.....	1	-
21 years and over.....	6,938	71.5	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	1,657	17.1	Noninstitutionalized population.....	1	-
65 years and over.....	1,465	15.1	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	573	5.9	Total households.....	4,027	100.0
Female.....	892	9.2	Family households (families).....	2,598	64.5
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	1,200	29.8
One race.....	9,579	98.7	Married-couple family.....	1,885	46.8
White.....	9,366	96.5	With own children under 18 years.....	762	18.9
Black or African American.....	53	0.5	Female householder, no husband present.....	496	12.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	22	0.2	With own children under 18 years.....	322	8.0
Asian.....	58	0.6	Nonfamily households.....	1,429	35.5
Asian Indian.....	6	0.1	Householder living alone.....	1,172	29.1
Chinese.....	26	0.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	505	12.5
Filipino.....	7	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	1,282	31.8
Japanese.....	8	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	1,104	27.4
Korean.....	-	-	Average household size.....	2.41	(X)
Vietnamese.....	4	-	Average family size.....	2.96	(X)
Other Asian ¹	7	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	6	0.1	Total housing units.....	4,336	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	1	-	Occupied housing units.....	4,027	92.9
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	3	-	Vacant housing units.....	309	7.1
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	2	-	occasional use.....	51	1.2
Some other race.....	74	0.8	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.5	(X)
Two or more races.....	128	1.3	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	6.7	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races: ³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	4,027	100.0
White.....	9,490	97.8	Owner-occupied housing units.....	2,642	65.6
Black or African American.....	91	0.9	Renter-occupied housing units.....	1,385	34.4
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	75	0.8	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.55	(X)
Asian.....	73	0.8	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.15	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	8	0.1			
Some other race.....	114	1.2			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 111

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 99



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Located in the Worcester region, which has three major cross-state highways: the Worcester Turnpike (Route 9), Route 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike. I-495 borders to the east, I-190 links to the Fitchburg-Leominster area, I-84 and I-395 connect to Connecticut and points south. The region is well connected by rail and highway to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 9 and 32. Just south in Palmer there is an interchange on the Massachusetts Turnpike (Interstate Route 90).

Rail

The Massachusetts Central Railroad provides freight rail service in Ware. Contact number: (413) 283-2911

Bus

Ware is a member of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVRTA), which runs a fixed route shuttle within the town. The PVRTA also offers paratransit services to the elderly and disabled through the Council on Aging.

Other

Metropolitan Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located in neighboring Palmer, is easily accessible. It has a 2,475'x 55' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

(American Association of Museums)

None

MUSEUMS

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Mary Lane Hospital

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Department of Housing and Community Development would like to thank the many government agencies noted as having provided information for the community profiles. In addition to these agencies, the Regional Transit Authorities assisted with the transportation component of the profiles. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of many city and town officials, which enabled us to include information obtainable only at the local level. DHCD would also like to thank the following individuals for providing special help: Leslie A. Kirwan, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Local Services, Department of Revenue; Richard Shibley, Deputy Secretary of State; Bob Beattie of the Department of Public Health; Charles W. Clifford from the Martha's Vineyard Commission; Dennis Coffey of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction; Donna Fletcher and Christian Jacqz of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; James Griffin from the MBTA; Karen Loh from Banker & Tradesman; Todd Maio from the Department of Welfare; Geoffrey Morton from the Election Division of the Secretary of State's Office; Stephen R. Muench of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; Rol Murrow of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Mary Ann Neary and Emmanuelle Fletcher, reference librarians at the State House Library; Jeff Nellhaus from the Department of Education; and George Sanborn, reference librarian at the State Transportation Library.

NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.